

16 JUL 1960

ER 60-5219/a STAT

*✓*  
Mr. B. Boyd Hight, Jr.  
Chairman  
Duke University Symposium Committee  
Box KM, Duke Station  
Durham, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Hight:

Thank you for your letter of June 24th and the copy of "The U. S. -Soviet Conflict." From the record of the symposium it is evident that your student group had an informative and stimulating discussion of this major world problem. I am passing the booklet to some members of my Agency who will be interested in reading the papers presented by the guest speakers.

Your enterprise in organizing the kind of program reflected in "The U. S. -Soviet Conflict" is most commendable. Well-informed citizens will be one of our most important assets during the critical years which lie ahead.

Please accept my best wishes for the success of future symposia sponsored by the Duke University Committee.

Sincerely,

**SIGNED**

Retyped: O/DCI/JSE:ji

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

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*✓* ① - ER *Via Leading*

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Concur: /s/ Robert Amory, Jr.

Deputy Director/Intelligence

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Dulles:

For your information, I am attaching the  
comments of the DD/I on "The U. S. - Soviet  
Conflict."

*MA*  
*14*  
AAB  
14 July 60

(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101  
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

12 July 1960

Comments on "The U.S. -Soviet Conflict"

"The U.S. -Soviet Conflict" contains the lectures delivered by Professor Frederick Schuman of Williams College, Professor Merle Fainsod of Harvard University, and Mr. Thomas Whitney during a symposium organized by a student group at Duke University, 6-8 October 1959.

The talks of the guest speakers presented analyses and conclusions that they have expressed in books and articles. In view of the then recently concluded Khrushchev visit to the United States and trends in the USSR, Professor Schuman was generally optimistic about the future course of U.S. -Soviet relations, stating that: "Unless further mistakes and miscalculations are made, the Cold War will be ended by a series of diplomatic settlements during the coming year or years . . ." Professor Fainsod was more cautious about appraising developments in the USSR as conducing to a relaxation of tensions. Mr. Whitney described Soviet economic advances as a serious challenge to the United States. His second talk was an account of the Khrushchev visit. The guest participants amplified their views during discussion periods, in which several members of the Duke faculty joined.

It is suggested that Professor Fainsod's talk on "The Conflict: Directions of Development" (pp. 28-31) and Professor Schuman's on "The Cold War: A Problem of Power" (pp. 43-55) contain the representative opinions of the two speakers. The rest of the material in the booklet is familiar to intelligence officers concerned with Soviet affairs.

*Prepared by [signature]*